

HOUSE RESOLUTION 153  
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to commend Henry Doyle Wattenbarger for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Henry Doyle Wattenbarger is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary thirty-eight year tenure with the United States Department of Agriculture Farmer's Home Administration, Henry Wattenbarger has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, born in Meigs County to the late Frank and Ellen Wattenbarger, Henry Wattenbarger began driving the school bus to Decatur at the age of twelve, a task he continued for six years; in 1936, he graduated as Valedictorian of Meigs County High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1940, Mr. Wattenbarger graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as a member of Phi Kappa Phi; and

WHEREAS, along with his nearly forty decades with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mr. Wattenbarger worked for the Union Planters Bank of Roane County for a commendable twelve years and with the Roane County Highway Department for three years; and

WHEREAS, the oldest living past President of the Kingston Lions Club, Mr. Wattenbarger has been a member of Lions Club and Lions International for an impressive fifty-three years, serving expertly as Secretary for the past fifty-one years; and

WHEREAS, other laudable community involvements include his membership with the Union Masonic Lodge #38 F&AM since 1944; he stood as Past Master in 1948 and has served with distinction as the Secretary for the last thirty-four years; and

WHEREAS, his desire to give back to his community has led Mr. Wattenbarger to serve as a volunteer and President of Habitat for Humanity for eleven years and as a volunteer with Kingston Young at Heart for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Henry Wattenbarger's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wattenbarger is a an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wattenbarger has evinced his religious faith as a member of various Baptist Churches in Meigs County, Knoxville, and Kingston for seventy-three years; and

WHEREAS, since 1942, he has been an upstanding and devout member of the First Baptist Church in Kingston; his devotion led him to offer unwavering service as a Sunday School teacher for fifty years, as a church clerk for twenty years, and as a deacon for sixty-one years; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as the President of the Big Emory Baptist Deacon Union for fifty years, gaining the coveted President Emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Henry Wattenbarger is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Christine Taylor, and their three children, M. Lloyd Wattenbarger, Marjorie W. Phillips, and AnnSue Gibi; he is the proud grandfather of grandchildren Darryl and Jason Phillips and Joe Gibi; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry Wattenbarger is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend Henry Doyle Wattenbarger for his honorable and astute service to the good people of

Tennessee through his numerous admirable acts of community service and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.